

IFW



PATENT  
8017-1109

**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Yuji MINOTA

Conf. 5579

Application No. 10/715,528

Group 2833

Filed November 19, 2003

Examiner A. Gilman

OPTICAL MODULE LOCKING MECHANISM FOR LOCKING OPTICAL MODULE  
CASE AND CAGE FOR HOUSING CASE TO EACH OTHER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the cited document is made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

As the USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and patent publication for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. references are not enclosed, as the present application is filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of this item is that this reference was cited by the German Patent Office in the corresponding German Application Serial No. 103 53 787.2-51. A copy of the German Official Action in which this reference was cited is attached hereto. **An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.**



Docket No. 8017-1109  
Appln. No. 10/715,528

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

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RJP/psf

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**8017-1109**

Applicant:  
**Yuji MINOTA**

Filing Date:  
**November 19, 2003**

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**10/715,528**

Group Art Unit:  
**2833**

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DATE CONSIDERED

\* English language abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience